**62 Years of DX-cellence** DXCC OR WAZ



**November 2010** 



# **BULLetin**

The Southern California DX Club Newsletter est. 1947

"If you need him get in there and work him<sup>2</sup>

The Southern California DX Club is a group of dedicated men and women active in the amateur radio community who enjoy communicating over the air with other radio amateurs around the world.

The newsletter is published every month and is released to its members about the first of each month. Amateur and DX related letters. news and pictures are welcome and will be published as time and space permit.

Articles may be republished with the recognition of the author and the club. Reuse of copyrighted materials require the original author's permission.

Any questions regarding this newsletter or its articles should be addressed to the editor, Bill

n6rv@scdxc.org

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM except April, June and December.

Please check the club web site for events and details at

http://www.scdxc.org

If you are in the area please say hello on our repeater W6AM/R145.48,(-) 100Hz PL







### **NEXT MEETING** November 11 @ 7:30 PM!

Wayne Spring, W6IRD

- . CQWW CW Contest!
- Glorioso & Mt. Athos!
  - 007 DXing!
  - . Holiday Party!
  - . We Still Need

**Reporters Articles Interesting Tidbits** 

Making friends all over the world using the magic of Amateur Radio. Sponsors of the International DX Convention, since 1949



## SCDXC HOLIDAY PARTY December 5, 2010





Date: December 5, 2010

Time: 11:00 am to 4:00 pm

Where: The Odyssey

15600 Odyssey Dr

Granada Hills, CA 91344

818.366.5817

www.theodysseyrestaurant.com



Sunday Buffet Brunch \$35.00 ea.



Variety of delicious foods to choose from

We suggest that you make arrangements for carpooling for those that do not want to drive long distances or can't drive. Don't miss the fun! *Driving instructions, please visit website at:* www.scdxc.org

Cut registration form here



Registration Form The Odyssey Restaurant December 5, 2010

Deadline for returning Registration Form: November 22, 2010

Name:	Callsign		
Number of guest including yo	urself		
Sunday Buffet Brunch	\$35.00 x	= \$	enclosed
Checks payable to: SCDXC an	d Send To:		
Cathy Gardenias K6VC - 2090	)2 Gardenias Street	- Perris, CA 9	92570
k6vc@scdxc.org			

### **VICE PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

John Schroeder, N6QQ, Vice President – Southern California DX Club n6qq@scdxc.org

Hello Everybody!

Bill Whitlock gave a great overview of AC/DC grounding problems. Urban, W6MPB, and Bill are putting together a follow up talk about RF grounding. I am sure that it will be very thorough and interesting

We caught Wayne, W6IRD, looking in the wrong direction and before he knew it he was slated as our speaker this month. Wayne will give a great talk and it will be on something interesting! Don't miss it. If you were at the summer bash then you saw his workshop. It is a sight to see.



How many of the new entities did you work? How many bands and how many modes got into your log? The last time we talked Larry, K6YUI. Had over seventy entries! I hit 59 band / modes. Nothing like a little political shift to make things exciting!

There are three contests worth looking into this month

Nov. 6-8 ARRL Sweepstakes CW

Nov. 13-15 Japan International DX Contest CW

We need more JA's! Actually it is encouraging to see so many still active!

Nov. 27-28 CQ WW DX Contest CW.

This is the big one. Expect a good turn out as conditions improve!

Don't forget the Holiday Party!

http://www.scdxc.org/holiday.html

See you at the November meeting.

73, John N6QQ Vice-President, SCDXC

#### **October Prize Winners**

- 1) Pro-Set Elite -- W6PBF
- 2) LCD MONITOR -- AI6DF
- 3) VIBROPLEX CODE KEY -- KS6Y
- 4) WEATHER STATION -- N6IC
- 5) WEATHER STATION -- K5KT
- 6) 1,000 QSL cards (UX5UO) -- NQ6L
- 7) THOMAS GUIDE W6ZPL
- 8) IOTA BOOK -- W6ZPL
- 9) W6SAI ANTENNA BOOK -- K6YUI
- 10) SOLDER IORN -- N6VC
- 11) INK-JET PAPER -- K6QU
- 12) INK-JET PAPER -- K6IRD
- 13) DX STORE COFFEE MUG --- Rosal E.



### THE EDITOR

Bill Kendrick, N6RV, **Editor - Southern California DX Club** 

n6rv@scdxc.org

Hello My Fellow DXers!

The newsletter is coming out early to remind everyone that the CQWW SSB Contest is on for this weekend. There are numerous DXpeditions and the conditions seem to be picking up. The Rumors on the Band column list is the largest ever. This may be a trend as conditions improve. DXing is back with a vengeance! Japan and Pacific station were abundantly present this weekend and the SFI has risen albeit only slightly. You know those new entities? Rest assured they will be on and hungry to work as many as possible this weekend.

Several articles were received over the past few months that have been particularly interesting though not directly related to DXing. In any event two are presented In this month's issue. James Bond and museum ships now that's a combination you can not afford to miss. Enjoy the reading!

Researching the top two most wanted entities for the West Coast was a great experience. Did you know that Mount Athos was a peninsula that supported its own community? Many believed it was a sole monastery on a mountain... not so. Read about it in the monthly 10 Most Wanted Countries from the West Coast article.

The first one who can guess the mystery station that Larry, K6YUI, supplied, and email it to me first wins five bucks worth of raffle tickets on me. This offer excludes any board member or person Larry has discussed this with and, of course, the station owner (sorry).

I am sure that Larry and John have already gone into detail about the PJs. It was very nice to hear all the club members out in force working them. It seemed like the old days... at least for the past few weeks. Hopefully it sparked some renewed enthusiasm!

Finally, thanks for all the DXCC updates. The new entities will be accepted for DXCC credit on Jan. 1, 2011. The newsletter DXCC standings will be updated then to reflect the additions. If you have any other updates please send them in too!

... -.. --.

See you at the next meeting!

73, de N6RV

**Rick Crosmer** W6ENZ

> **Roger Merideth K6GVO**

**New Members** 

Please welcome new members:

> **Gabriel Calfas K6AWB**

Diana Feinberg

AI6DF

**Gene Brewer** 

W<sub>5</sub>DQ

**Linda Souder KD6HYN** 

**Rob Reichman WA3IHV** 

**Lloyd Hendrickson K6QNY** 

Arnold Schwartz **WB6PJC** 

**Stan Thornton** KI6QM

**David Lopez** N<sub>6</sub>RI

**Dale Piedfort KB7UB** 

**Mark Willardson N6OUZ** 

**Barry Fitshew N6VOH** 

> **Mary Gray** KH6VZ

**Timothy Coker N6WIN** 

Make sure you meet and greet them at the next meeting!

### **RUMORS ON THE BAND**

A plethora of announcements, rumors, and serious DX fun

There are a ton of DXpeditions going on this month plus the CQWW CW contest! If you missed all the fun with the new entities do not fret! These islands are very popular among contesters and will be occupied by them in all major DX contests. In fact even Saba with the 9th most dangerous runway in the world will be popular among DXpeditioners!

Note that there is a major DXpedition to Kermadec at the end of the month. Though this might not be too rare these guys will be hitting it hard on all bands and modes. It will be a good time to grab some band fillers!

#### **Netherlands Antilles**

Here is the official word from the ARRL on the new entities

**Deleted:** 

PJ2 / PJ4 Bonaire, Curacao

PJ5 / PJ6 /PJ7 Saba, St. Maarten, St. Eustatius

New:

PJ2 Curacao PJ4 Bonaire PJ7 St. Maarten

PJ5 / PJ6 Saba, St. Eustatius

#### **Useful DX Sites**

NOHR DXpedition Map www.n0hr.com/wk34/

The DX Zone

www.dxzone.com/catalog/DX Resources/

The Daily DX www.dailydx.com/

Announced DX Ops

www.ng3k.com/misc/adxo.html

DXing.info

/www.dxing.info/dxpeditions/

DX 425 News

www.425dxn.org/dxped/

Dx-info.de www.dx-info.de

DX Italia DX News www.marioi2mqp.it

DH9SB Weekly DX Calendar <a href="http://www.dx-info.de">http://www.dx-info.de</a>

**Blue Information** indicate particularly rare entities and **Red information** indicate SCDXC member attended DXpedition. As always you have to turn on your radio to work them.

Call	QTH	<b>Start Date</b>	End Date	Date Information Website		
YA	Afghanistan	Now	5/30/2011	KD5NOI (T6JC) & K5TLL (T6TL) 40-10 SSB & Digital	_	
ΥI	Iraq	Now		KB2RLB (YI1RLB), KG4GYS (YI4GYS)		
				ZS1HF working trip on the air when possible. Several		
ZS8M	Marion Island	Now	4/1/2011	spots on 40m.	-	
SU	Egypt	Now	11/15/2010	SU/HA3JB CW RTTY SSTV PSK a little SSB	<u>_</u>	
5R8HT	Madagascar	Now	11/28/2010	F4DBJ 80-10m	_	
ZD9	Tristan Da Cunha	Now	12/6/2010	DL2AH, SSB RTTY Low Power Windom	_	
ZD9	Gough Island	Now	9/1/2011	ZS1LF		
H40	Tometu	Now	10/22/2010	SP5DRH (H40KJ), SP3BQ (H40BQ) mostly CW	<u>_</u>	
C9	Mozambique	Now	10/31/2010		http://www.3da0ss.net/events.htm	
C56FR	Gambia	Now	11/11/2010			
A2	Botswana	Now	11/11/2010	I0ZY (A25ZY), IK1MDF (A25DF),I0ZY,IZ5MMB (A25MB), K5LBU (A25CF), K5ZOL (A25BI), KD5TAN (A25AN), W5SL (A25SL) 160-6 SSB/CW/RTTY A25HQ in CQWW SSB DL7DF, 9X0DL, 9X0RT, 9X0WK 160-10 SSB/CW/RTTY/	http://www.qsl.net/a25-2010/	
9X0SP	Rwanda	Now	11/2/2010	Digi	http://www.dl7df.com/	
SX5P	Dodecanese	Now	11/2/2010	ON4PO (J45PO) ON4MW (J45MW) SX5P CQWW SSB		
8Q7EJ	Maldives	Now	11/7/2010	G3VDB CW mostly 20m Holiday Style	-	
6V7T	Senegal	Now	11/1/2010			
S79AD	Seychelles	Now	11/4/2010	IW0HLG HF & 6 SSB & RTTY		
5X0CW	Uganda	Now	11/3/2010	DK7PE 40-10 possibly 160/80 if no noise		
GU10CN	Gurnsey	Now	11/5/2010	G1OCN, M3IOP		
YJ0HA	Vanuatu	Now	11/15/2010	HA5UK, HA5AO 160-10m; CW SSB RTTY PSK SSTV	http://ha5ao.novolab.hu/	
9U0A	Burundi	Now	11/9/2010	DL7DF HF All modes	http://www.dl7df.com/	
9L0W	Siera Leon	11/4/2010	11/18/2010	DK2WV, DJ9AF 160-6m CW SSB RTTY	_	
XU	Cambodia	11/6/2010	11/9/2010	XU7ACY XU7ADV XU7AJV XU7KOH HF All Modes	_	
5X1XA	Uganda	11/14/2010	12/1/2010	G3XAQ HF CW 100W		
PJ5/SP6IXF	St. Eustatius	11/18/2010	12/3/2010	SP6IXF 160-10 SSB, CW, RTTY		
ZL8X	Kermadec	11/19/2010	12/5/2010	DJ5IW, DJ9RR, DK1II, DL1MGB, DL3DXX, DL5CW, DL5LYM, DL5XL, DL6FBL, DL8LAS, DL8OH, SP5XVY, SV2KBS 160-10m CW SSB RTTY	http://www.kermadec.de/	
zk2a	Nuie	11/20/2010	12/3/2010	IK1PMR, PA3LEO, LA9SN, N6TQS, K6SRZ, SP5UAF 160- 40m, 30 17 12m CW RTTY	http://www.pacificdxpedition.com/	

### **DX ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Celebrate the Successes of Our Fellow Members

#### **Updates**

#### Remember to Send in Your Updated Standings

Since there will be two more countries added to the deleted list and four new entities added to the DXCC list it seems like we should be busy updating the DXCC standings. Be sure to send them in! Thanks to those who already submitted!

#### SCDXC WAZ and DXCC Standings (N6RV)

The first of the two large numbers represent the number of confirmed zones on the 9 HF bands 160-10 (less 60 meters). The next column contain the following codes:

M Mixed P Phone C CW R RTTY 5 5 Band

If you have any information to post please email me:

N6RV@SCDXC.ORG

### **FOR SALE**

#### 40M Verticals For Sale

I have three, full size, 40M self-supporting vertical antennas for sale. Each comes complete with a stub suitable for ground mounting the antenna. The antennas are copied from the Butternut HF-2V design, all tapering, in 4 foot lengths, from 1 1/4" to 3/8", they are constructed to be easily dis-assembled. The antennas are currently on the ground and ready for PU, price is \$75 each, or buy all 3 (I used three in a 1/4 wave triangle array) for \$200. You can't buy the alum. for that price! Pickup only in Placerville, de Rick,W6SR. Pics available upon request.

ellow Members!				
WAZ STANDINGS				
	9B / 5B	Awards		
EU7SA	355 / 200	M/5		
N6AW	355 / 200 355 / 200	M/P/C/5		
WA5VGI	352 / 200	M/P/C/5		
W6VX	352 / 199			
K6FG	345 / 196	M/P/C/R/5		
W6SR W8DX	342 / 200 339 / 200	M/P/C//5 M/5		
K6YUI	337 / 200	M/P/C/R/5		
W6YOO	303 / 200	M/P/C/5		
K6YRA	280 / 200	P/5		
KC6X	278 / 200	M/C/5		
N6RV K6LD	268 / 183 271 / 172	M/P/C M/P		
KR6C	264 / 166	M/C		
KJ6Y	261 / 172	11170		
WD6L	248 / 200	M/P/5		
K6SY	246 / 173	P		
K6GXO N6OU	227 / 193 220 / 200	M M/5		
N6OU N6DHZ	214 / 160	IVI/O P		
KH6DX/m		•		
NS6C	/ 198			
N6MXU	155 / 193			
K2PLF K6KII	191 / 191 191 / 177	М		
W6IRD	181 / 147	M/P		
W6NRQ	180 / 147	M/P		
K6IRD	154 / 126	M/P		
WA6BOB		M		
K6IRA W3SE	118 / 102 102 / 112			
K6VC	96 / 96	Р		
W6EA	92 / 86	•		
N6VNI	86 / 64			
KA6TTV	82 / 67			
N6UC N6GIL	78 / 78 49 / 43	М		
W6DCK	49 / 43	Р		
WB6PSY	40 / 40	P		
K6JW	40 / 40	M/P		
KT6LA	40 / 40			
K6YR NZ6L	39 / 39 36 / 36			
N6HE	35 / 35			
W4EF	29 /			
N6AWD		M		
N6HC		M/P/C		
W60ES		P M		
K8RD		C		
K6UNR	/ 200	M/P/5		

DXCC S	TANDINGS
KCKII	TOT / CUR
K6KII JA1BK	382 / 338 377 / 338
K6YRA	372 / 338
K6EXO	370 / <mark>338</mark>
N6UC	365 / <mark>338</mark>
K6YUI	360 / 338
NS6C N6AW	355 / <mark>338</mark> 355 / 337
W6HT	358 / 338
W6SR	353 / <mark>338</mark>
K6IPV	353 / 334
WA6WZO K8RD	352 / 338 351 / 338 351 / 338
K6FG	351 / 338
K5KT	350 / <b>338</b>
K6GXO	350 / 338
K2PLF N6RV	349 / <mark>338</mark> 349 / 336
W8DX	348 / 338
W6OM	347 / 337
W6AUG	345 / <mark>338</mark>
KC6X	344 / 337
W6YOO W6OES	344 / 334 344 / 329
W6CES	344 / 329 343 / <mark>338</mark>
W6VX	343 / 338
N6AWD	343 / 336
K6LD	343 / 338
W6DCK WB6PSY	342 / 336 342 / 333
EU7SA	340 / 336
KB6KTV	340 / 335
WA5VGI	342 / 336
KR6C N6HC	338 / 335 338 / 333
N6OU	334 / 329
N6HY	333 / 329
W6IRD	327 / 324
K6UNR	333 / 332 332 / 324
W6QE KM6HB	328 / 325
KJ6Y	327 / 323
K2IXQ	324 / 325
K6SY	312 / 310
AD6KQ WD6L	299 / 299 295 / 292
W6HB	291 / 285
N6DHZ	286 / 284
W6NRQ	284 / 284
N7CQQ N6MXU	268 / 266 267 / 265
K6JW	253 / 251
K6YR	244 / 244
K6GEP	239 / 226
K6DJ	236 / 236
K6HCJ K6IRD	235 / 235 229 / 229
K6GEP	229 / 226
K6VC	227 / 227
KT6LA WASBOB	202/ 202 202 / 198
WA6BOB N6VNI	195 / 195
KA6TTV	145 / 145
N6HE	145 / 140
K60G0	142 / 142
W6EA W6WVW	138 / 138 134 / 134
W4EF	134 / 134
K6LX	125 / 125
WA6NOL	112 / 111
NZ6L	27 / 27

### **SPURIOUS OUTPUTS**

Comments, Announcements, and Interesting Tid-Bits Submitted by Members

#### Can You Guess Our Mystery QTH? (K6YUI)

Our president Larry submitted this photo. I decided this was a cool station and deserves some attention. He will be the subject of a future profile after Larry and I visit him! I will save the description for the article. The antennas are intriguing!

### Asian Pacific DX Convention (N6RV)

The APDXC 2010 starts on November 5, 2010.

Please register for the APDXC 2010 as soon as possible so that you don't miss this fun DX Convention in Osaka!!



This year we're looking forward to seeing some hams from brand new DXCC entities for the APDXC, including 4J5T Natig and 4K5D Igor from Azerbaijan, JT1BV Naran from Mongolia, DU6BG from Philippines, and more.

Our Icom factory tour is a bit different from previous years. In addition to their main factory in Waka-yama, south of Osaka, we'll be visiting Icom's brand new factory as well. Of course, a Q&A session with Icom HF radio engineers at their head office in Osaka will follow. After a tour through their modern factory, we'll talk about Icom radios, general technical issues, etc. face-to- face with the people who designed your Icom radios and are working on the next generation radios.

On Day 2, you'll visit Uji, where the best Japanese green tea comes from. This is not just a sight-seeing tour, but also you'll make your own green tea in the traditional way that's still used today to make their best green tea. You'll take short courses on making green tea used for Japanese tea ceremonies and regular tea for everyday use. Why don't you join this tour to make your green tea to take back home with you. Included on the tour is a visit to nearby Byodoin, one of the best-known Buddhist temples in Japan which was built a thousand years ago.

Our "Welcome party," "DX dinner" and presentation day which are always enjoyed by participants are scheduled for this year, too.

Please take a look at <a href="http://apdxc.org">http://apdxc.org</a> and register for APDXC 2010 today.

73 DE APDXC Committee ( http://apdxc.org/)

### **High-Tech VW Factory (W6MPB)**

Though not directly DX related I have been informed that a prerequisite for working in this factory is a German amateur radio license. It is said that many DXers are in this video!

Click here: High-Tech Car Factory

### **SPURIOUS OUTPUTS**

### Telegraph Key (K6LD)

Keith provided this look at this mid-nineteenth century key. I am sure that some of us have used this model!



### FSDXA announce plans for 2011 (ZL3TE)

Wes provides this announcement:

Members of the Five Star DXers Association (FSDXA) finally announced their plans for 2011 at the RSGB Convention this past week. The FSDXA will be heading to the Pacific Ocean as they mentioned earlier. Their plans are to activate Christmas Island (T32) using 24 (or more) operators, with 15 FT-5000s and 15 VL-1000 amps. More details are forthcoming. Remember, this is the same group who are well known for their great operations to: Comoros (D68C), St. Brandon Island (3B7C), Rodriguez Island (3B9C) and Spratley Islands (9M0C).

### **SPURIOUS OUTPUTS**

### **Grounding (W6MPB)**

(Doc forwarded this communication between Urban and Bill. It clarifies electrical grounding, signal grounding and audio shielding. This is something that Dennis, W6DQ, also mentioned in his presentation on grounding. The purpose for bonding all electrical grounds together is to prevent potential differences among the various grounds which will cause currents to flow that are called ground loops. Also a separate ground that is not tied into the household electrical ground could be a bypass around the circuit breakers by shunting the current to earth ground and not returning it to the breaker. That current raises the ground potential of the device. For a high voltage short the metal casing on your amplifier for instance may be at a lethal voltage. N6RV)

#### Doc:

To Bill Whitlock 'RF Grounding' refers to the prevention of RFI in studio systems. I explained to Bill [who has little experience with radio transmitters] what you and most amateur operators are referring to is signal ground.

With a balanced antenna [i.e. Yagi, log periodic, dipole] NO grounding is required for proper signal transmission. With an unbalanced antenna [random wire, etc.] a ground IS required AT THE FEED POINT. A proper feed point ground consists of a field of radials or mesh - NOT a grounding electrode. ALL GROUNDING ELECTRODES ARE ELECTRICAL SERVICE GROUNDS AND MUST BE TIED TO THE SERVICE GROUNDING SYSTEM - INCLUDING TOWER LIGHTNING GROUNDS.

Please review Bill's statement below then review the attached document which is a scan from a regularly published analysis of the NEC [National Electrical Code].

73 Urban

Hi Urban,

YOU ARE RIGHT! Unless things have changed since 2005, the attached clearly shows the required bonding wire. I consider Mike Holt a good authority when interpreting the complex language in the Code. I owe you a beer!

Cordially,

Bill Whitlock, president & chief engineer Jensen Transformers, Inc. www.jensen-transformers.com AES Life Fellow - IEEE Life Senior (from my home office in Oxnard, CA)

See next page for excerpt on grounding

- a. Building or structure grounding electrode system [250.50].
- Interior metal water piping system, within 5 ft from its point of entrance [250.52(A)(1)]. Figure 810-10

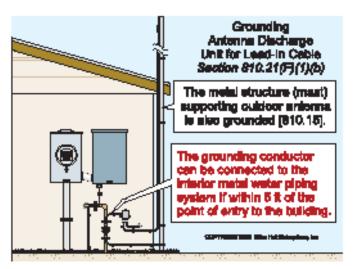


Figure 810-10

- c. Accessible service bonding means [250.94].
- d. Metallic service raceway.
- e. Service equipment enclosure.
- Grounding electrode conductor or the grounding electrode conductor metal enclosure.
- (G) Inside or Outside Building. The grounding conductor can be run either inside or outside the building.
- (H) Size. The grounding conductor must not be smaller than 10 AWG copper or 17 AWG copper-clad steel or bronze.

Author's Comment: Copper-clad steel or bronze wire (17 AWG) is often molded into the jacket of the coaxial cable to simplify the grounding of the satellite dish by eliminating the need to run a separate ground wire to the dish [810.21(F)(1)].

(J) Bonding of Electrodes. If a ground rod is installed to serve as the ground for the radio and television equipment, it must be connected to the building's power grounding electrode system with a minimum 6 AWG conductor. Figure 810-11

Author's Comment: The bonding of separate system electrodes (building and radio and television equipment electrode) reduces voltages that may develop between the building's power and the radio and television equipment grounding electrode system during lightning events. Figure 810-12

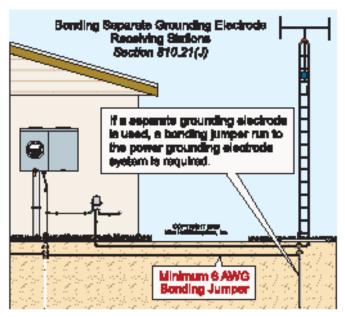


Figure 810-11

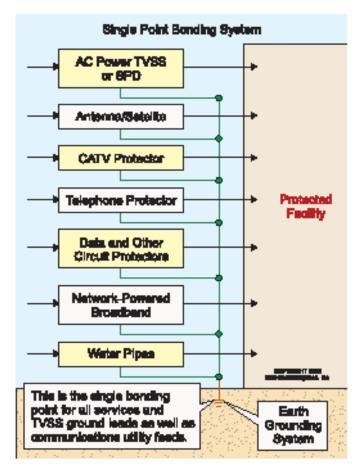


Figure 810-12

### **DX Ships (WA6AWD)**

For those that are NOT "AMATEUR RADIO" types .... this hobby you will not understand. However, for those that are interested in ham radio QSL CARDS you will find it interesting, indeed !!

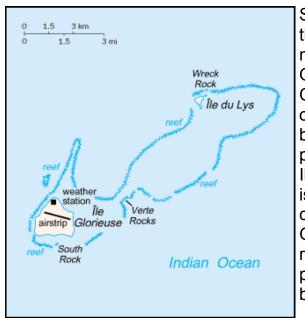
Best 73's Andy Romanisky



### 2010 TOP TEN MOST WANTED COUNTRIES

**North America West Coast** 

### FT5G FR/G Glorioso Island



So we start at number one...again. Glorioso Island is one of the most elusive DX locations in the world. Of course it is almost at our antipode, as is several islands in the Indian Ocean, making it one of the farthest places from Southern California. Located East of Africa (11 30 S, 47 20 E) just North of Madagasscar, near the Seychelles, Glorioso Islands have been a French possession since 1892. The group is composed of two lushly vegetated coral islands (Ile Glorieuse and lle du Lys) and three rock islets. The combined area of the islands is approximately 1.5 sq. mi. A military garrison with a compliment of 14 operates a weather and radio station on lle Glorieuse. Typically islands like these are held for their natural resources, and offshore mineral and fishing rights. The French possessions in the area also establish a military presence at both ends of the Mozambique channel that runs between the

African mainland and Madagascar. Other than that not much can be said about the group except it is claimed by

both Madagasscar and Comoros.



There have been many valid DXpeditions to the island group though none as comprehensive as the current DXpedition mode we have seen in recent history. In spite of this, two large groups did make valiant effort to put this entity on the map as did several one and two man efforts in the past. The problem has been propagation. The large DXpeditions were executed during sunspot lows. The most recent one, FT5GA, netted only a handful of very short openings to the West Coast. Some claim that at the peak times to our area the operators would go QRT. Going over the reports by the FT5GA team they indicated that the off times were mandatory and not in their control. Nevertheless the West Coast operators who persevered easily added this call to their logs. I listened on several openings and witnessed little response to their CQs.









The table to the right lists all the documented operations from Glorioso. As you can see there are far too many to go into detail on each one. Furthermore not much is said about them on the internet except the last DXpedition which is well documented. The complete story of FT5GA can be found on their website

http://glorieuses2008.free.fr/index-e.htm

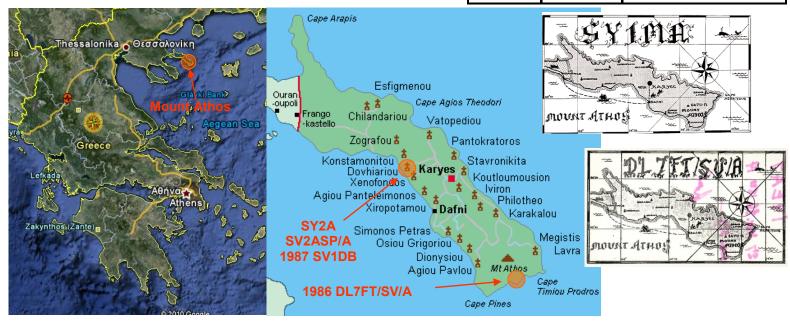
### **#2 SY Mount Athos**

Mount Athos is an autonomous region in Greece on the eponymous peninsula in Macedonia, Northeastern Greece. The region, though connected to Macedonia is very mountainous with steep cliffs and dangerous passages, accessible only by boat.

#### <u>History</u>

With a long history whose roots are in antiquity this region has enjoyed a fairly stable existence free from the ravages of many civilizations that dominated Greece. Athos, from whom the region is named, is one of the Gigantes of Greek mythology, the offspring of the Greek primal goddess, Gaia, personifying mother earth, the Greek version of Mother Nature. As the story goes Athos was throwing large boulders at Poseidon resulting in the formation of the peninsula. Poseidon in turn buried with the mountain now named after him.

Gloriso Island Dxpedition History (FT5G formerly FR/G)				
Date Call Sign Operators				
		Gus Browning, W4PBD, Chuck		
03/63	FR7ZC / G	W4PRP		
00.00		José Guerra Facada, CR7GF		
7/66	CR7GF/FR7G	(ex CT2GF, CR3GF, FH8GF)		
11/66	FR7ZP	Don Miller, W9WNV		
09/67 09/67	FR7ZD/G	Guy		
11/68	FR7ZR/G	Jean-Pierre Viode		
09-10/70	FR7ZU	Jaques Quillet		
10/71	FR7ZQ/G			
09/74	FR7AE/G	Roger Avgugliaro		
11/75	FR7ZL/G	Guy P. from Rhodesia		
01/76	FR7ZL/G	Guy P. from Rhodesia		
	FR0ACB	Anne DF3KX, Baldur DJ6SI,		
	FR0ACC	Gero DJ3NG, Hans DK9KX,		
04/80	FR0RX	Wilfried DJ5RT		
	FR0DZ/G,	Wilfried DJ5RT, Baldur DJ6SI,		
	FR0RX/G,	Regine DJ7YQ, Butz DL6PE,		
9/80	FR0CIW/G	Harry DL8CM, Paul F6EXV		
	FR0EUT/G,			
	FR0EUT / G,			
09/80	FR0DZ/G			
03-04/81	FR7AI/G	Yoland (ex FR7AH)		
	FR7AI/G	,		
04/81	FR7AI / G	Yoland (ex FR7AH)		
09/82	FR0GGL/G	Jan Niel (ex FK8CJ)		
06-10/82	FR0GGL/G Jan Niel (ex FK8CJ)			
12/86-01/87	FR/G/FH4ED Gérard Magnuszewski			
02/87	FR/G/FH4EC Daniel Muller			
03-04/87	FR/G/FH4ED	Gérard Magnuszewski		
10-11/87	FR/G/FH4EC	Daniel Muller		
05/89	FR5AI/G	Yoland (ex FR7AH)		
12/89	FR7AI/G	Yoland (ex FR7AH)		
91	FR5ZU/G	Jaques Quillet		
05/92	FR/DJ6SI	Baldur Drobnica		
05/92	FR/DG4FCD	Bernd DG4FCD, Frank DJ3OS		
05/92	FR/DJ8CR	Willi Nietmann		
09/92	FR5ZU/G	Jaques Quillet		
04/94	FR5ZU/G	Jaques Quillet		
12/94	FR5ZQ	Henri Namtameco		
07/96	FRG/FH5AM	Manuel		
10/98	FR5ZU/G	Jaques Quillet		
05/99	FR5ZQ	Henri Namtameco		
05-06/00'	FR5ZQ	Henri Namtameco		
		Didier F5OGL, Yves F5PRU,		
		Bernard F5LPY, Philippe		
		F4EGS, David F8CRS, Freddy		
09-10/09	FT5GA	F5IRO		



In the Eastern Orthodox Christian tradition, it is believed that the Apostle John and Mary the mother of Jesus on route to Cyprus were blown off course landing in the region. In their tradition it is said that Mary was overwhelmed by the beauty of the area and asked her Son for it as her garden. A voice proclaimed from heaven "Let this place be your inheritance and your garden, a paradise and a haven of salvation for those seeking to be saved". From that moment the mountain was consecrated as the garden of the Mother of God and was out of bounds to all other women. In the 7th century monks migrated to the region and established communities. As stated previously the region was exempt from the ravages of many cultures that followed. The Ottoman Empire allowed the residents to live in relative solitude. All the Muslims required was the heavy tax they levied.

The region today is still out of bounds to females of <u>every species</u> except hens because egg yolks are used as ingredients for many of the artworks produced in the region. The region contains 20 monasteries. There are 12 communities called sketes whose residents are primarily male Christian hermits. If you are a YL and looking to go on a DXpedition to this entity forget it! In fact the telecommunications authority in the region does not give out licenses to foreign amateurs. To be a resident you must be a male member of the Eastern Orthodox tradition. With the exception of a few workers that support the monks the population consists of monks and hermits. Very few people are allowed even to visit the region and preference is given to those males of the Eastern Orthodox tradition.

#### **Ham Radio History**

Well the history of Mt. Athos in ham radio lore is very short relative to its antiquity but not so peaceful. The residents of the region have little to do with the "cosmos" (gk: translates creation or world)... that is us. Their dedication is to their beliefs and the monastic life.

#### SV1DB/A

The first recorded DXpedition to the region was in 1973 led by Dino, SV1DB. A large group of amateurs from three countries descended on the peninsula. They went through many hoops to get permission and while on the air they were confronted by the local authorizes who confiscated two of the three stations because they possessed only one license. In spite of the hardship and conflicts they managed to make over 5,000 QSOs. It was reported that one member of the team allegedly demanded privi-

leges beyond what was negotiated and threatened to withhold payment for his part of the trip if his group did not have a separate operating position and he was made sole QSL manager for the DXpedition... so much for smooth sailing. The

whole story can be deciphered from website at the end of this article.

After that there was a procession of Greek amateur radio operators who put this unique entity on the map.





Date	Call Sign	Operators	
	CVADDIA	SV1DB SV1ER SV1GK HB9AHL HB9KB DL1CU DL8ME DJ6SI	
4/73	SV1DB/A SV1ER/A	DK5OS DL7FT	
7/75	SV1GA/A	SV1GA	
8/79	SV1DC/A SV1IW/A SV1JG/A	SV1DC SV1IW SV1JG	
4/80	SV1DC/A SV1IW/A SV1JG/A	SV1DC SV1IW SV1JG	
3/86	DL7FT/SV/A	DL7FT	
	SV2RE/SY SV2QO/SY SV2WT/SY SV2UA/SY SV2UF/SY	SV2RE SV2QO SV2WT SV2UA SV2UF	
9/87	SV2TX/SY	SV2TX	
11/90	SV2RE/A	SV2RE	
11/91	SY/DJ6SI	DJ6SI	
10-12/01	SY2A	Y2A Monk Apollo	
1990 - Now	SV2ASP/A	Monk Apollo	

Mt. Athos Dxpedition History (SV/A, SY)

#### **DL7FT**, Frank Turek

In 1986 Frank Turek, DL7FT, returned again. He received permission to operate albeit reports state that it was from Greece which is the recognized authority over that area. Other reports indicated that the license permitted operation on the island of Rhodes only and alleged Frank operated from an island off the coast of the peninsula. The operation was protested after it occurred. The community was not made aware of the operation and apparently Greek amateurs applied pressure to have his reciprocal license



revoked. Greece was a member of the CEPT at the time and revoking his license meant dropping out of the Conference. It appears that there is a loophole for hams from a CEPT member country. It may mean enduring harassment and it is contrary to good amateur radio conduct. Oh.. and you still have to get the equipment into the country and on the peninsula. In any event the ARRL accepted the operation for DXCC credit. Understandably the license was reciprocal and Athos is part of Greece. The distinction is only internal to the country much like our states. After this incident a valid license was almost impossible to obtain.

### **SV2TX/SY and Company**

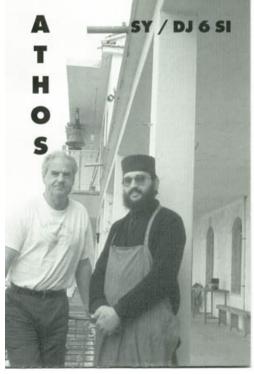
Another significant DXpedition occurred 23 years ago in 1987. Several Greek amateurs after a long and tenuous process received permission to operate and in short notice, with the assistance of a young monk named Apollo, was able to conduct a large operation. There is a fairly well documented account of their trip at the website below. It explains some of the challenges encountered. http://www.qsl.net/sv2tx/athos\_dxpedition.html

### Baldur DJ6SI / SY / A

In 1991 Baldur also returned to Athos. I found little information about the operation. One thread indicated that the Greek amateurs protested this operation too! In that thread the author stated that he even stayed with a monk and operated from his location. The QSL card to the right shows Baldur with someone who looks very much like monk Apollo. The ARRL did halt accepting cards from this operation to investigate the allegations. Again they found no grounds for the protest and resumed accepting QSLs from this operation.

### Monk Apollo, SY2A SV2ASP / A

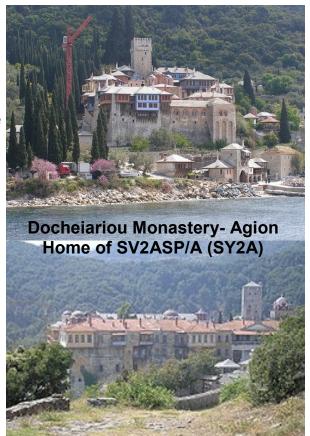
The SV2TX /SY article indicated that a young monk, 35 in 1987, assisted the team in securing operating permission. They operated from Docheiariou Monastery on the South West side of the peninsula. The article indicated that Apollo just received his license. and received permission to operate from the Holy Epistasia, a council who is the regional authority on Mount Athos. Apollo became, and



still is, the only resident amateur from this entity. Apollo's duties keep him occupied 16 hours a day, seven days a week leaving little time to enjoy the hobby. In spite of this he has made several contacts over the years. In 2000 monk Apollo was permitted to use the call sign SY2A celebrating 10 years of amateur radio activity from Mount Athos. There was a period where he was recuperating from an accident and spent many hours with the radio.



Recently, about a year ago, monk Apollo was asking for help regarding preserving the SY prefix for Mount Athos. The discussion on the site below is very interesting and is indicative of the unusual classification of this entity.



http://dx-hamspirit.com/2008/12/mount-athos-news/

### A DXpedition without Radios

SV1DPI, SV1SN, SV1CQG and SV1CIB visited Father Apollo SV2ASP in Mount Athos in April 2010. They repaired his antennas and toured several sites. "We went there like pilgrims but we had the chance to repair SV2ASP's antenna and rotator. So we hope Father Apollo will have a better signal now and everyone can work this rare entity. For us it was like a DXpedition but without operating. Who knows? Maybe a next time.. Beside this we had the chance to visit some more Monasteries"

You can get a glimpse at the region through the very nice YouTube Video they created: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RsyrW7CT1Aw">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RsyrW7CT1Aw</a>

In a few discussions there is indication that a SteppIR is on its way to monk Apollo. Possibly this will

be incentive to operate more. Of course a few more sunspots will certainly increase activity. Maybe even a Six Meter appearance is in the near future!



Hopefully the Greek amateurs who assist monk Apollo will be given privileges to operate there on a more permanent basis. Though the monastery is not ideally suited for accommodating such a strange request it would not be out of the norm as monasteries have assisted others throughout history. Again the operators would have to use headphones. I could imagine the echo of

SSB and CW audio bouncing of the stone hallway walls!

### SV1DB/A History:

http://translate.google.com/translate?hl=en&sl=de&u=http://dokufunk.org/amateur\_radio/history\_dl\_alt/index.php%3FCID%3D3089%26ID%3D3214%26PHPSESSID%

3Dc68c02ab1b3f1fe2f7baa291be238436&ei=GbbDTKX1CJK2sAOV\_8TcCw&sa=X&oi=translatextext{e&ct=result&resnum=7&ved=0CDgQ7gEwBg&prev=/search%3Fq%3D%2522DL7FT/SV/A%2522%26hl%3Den%26client%3Dfirefox-a%26hs%3DZHY%26rls%3Dorg.mozilla:en-US:official%26prmd%3Div

**Very Nice Blog on Mount Athos** 

http://athos.web-log.nl/athos agios oros /

So this completes the top two most wanted entities from the West Coast. You can see how fragile it is to obtain permission and execute a good DXpedition. The complexity of disparate agendas, personality conflicts, rivalries, and resistance in general to anything other than the normal activities of a region is something that has to be addressed. This is true even with the casual DX vacation. Often travelers get into situations where their equipment is confiscated or a large fee is levied on them. You have to be somewhat of a diplomat to work through the issues. The ARRL has some things to say about first time Dxpeditioning on their website and there are several members who have had quite a bit of experience in the matter. Marty Woll, in a presentation last year, explained how it is helpful not only to have a list of equipment but copies of magazine advertisements in the luggage carrying the equipment along with the license documentation. That way you could show them the license and the article indicating it as amateur radio equipment. Also it is good to have someone meet you at the port of entry. Many travelers were walked straight through customs by a resident ham. It certainly can not hurt!

The next two entities are Yemen and Tromelin. These two entities are not at dissimilar to Mt. Athos and Glorioso. In fact Tromelin is a neighbor of Glorioso. Yemen has a long history of opposition to amateur radio. That story will be very interesting to investigate and tell.

#### See you next month!











20	2010 TOP 10 NEEDED COUNTRIES						
ı	NORTH AMERICA WEST COAST						
1	FT5G	GLORIOSO					
2	SV/A	MOUNT ATHOS					
3	P5	NORTH KOREA					
4	70	YEMEN					
5	FT5T	TROMELIN					
6	VK0/H	HEARD ISLAND					
7	KP1	NAVASSA					
8	T5	SOMALIA					
9	FT5Z	AMSTERDAM					
10	FT5/JE	JUAN DE NOVA/EUROPA					











### Ham Radio in a 007 Film





Ham radio can be found almost anywhere if you have your ham radio antennas up to receive signals around you. The wife and I decide to attend the Fullerton Fox Theater outdoor viewing on August 26 where they were showing Dr. No, a 007 motion picture filmed in the 1962. It was similar to the drive-in movies back and the day but without a car. As we are sitting watching the movie I heard CW, The scene opens up inside a bungalow, where a woman opens up a bookcase which conceals a hidden ham radio transceiver. She makes a call using the ham radio transceiver, "W6N to G7W", an English station on phone. I guess 007 (played by Sean Connery) is not a CW man. The pictures are scenes from the movie where there are several operators sitting in front of their radios. Everywhere you go, have your antennas up and set your sensitivity to the highest setting and see what you can pickup. You never know.

Written by
David Lopez, N6RI
ARRL Orange Section
Public Information Coordinator

(Thanks Dave for the article. I recall the scene you described. I was a ham before I saw my first Bond movie... editor)



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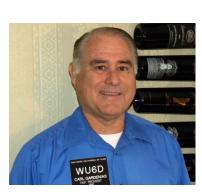
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